



History and Image: A Lecture Dedicated to the Work of Abylkhan Kasteev

On January 14, 2026, as part of the *Silver University* program implemented by the T. Zhurgenov Kazakh National Academy of Arts, a regular lecture in the field of *Fine Arts* was held at the Abylkhan Kasteev House-Museum. The event was aimed at an in-depth exploration of the history of the formation of national fine art and at direct engagement with artistic heritage within an authentic cultural environment.

During the meeting, Erkin Nurazkhan, research fellow of the Abylkhan Kasteev House-Museum, Honored Worker of Kazakhstan, and artist-publicist, conducted an informative and insightful guided tour for the participants, dedicated to the life path and creative legacy of the outstanding master. The tour highlighted the key stages of Abylkhan Kasteev's professional development, the distinctive features of his artistic worldview, and his historical contribution to the development of Kazakh fine art, examined within a broad cultural and social context. Through the artist's works, the spiritual and social realities as well as the aesthetic values of Kazakh society of the 20th century were vividly revealed.

In the second part of the session, art historian L. A. Kenzhebaeva carried out an art-historical analysis of Abylkhan Kasteev's landscape, genre, and historical works. The lecture examined the artist's visual language in interpreting historical subjects, his compositional structures, system of plastic thinking, and the symbolic meanings of his works, based on a professional art-historical approach.

This lecture not only contributed to enhancing the participants' culture of perceiving artistic heritage, but also enabled a deeper understanding of the historical continuity of national fine art, offering a renewed perspective on the place and significance of Abylkhan Kasteev's oeuvre within Kazakh artistic culture.